



02 JUNE 2020

**Seventy** (out of 73) Gavi-eligible countries have reported 475,401 confirmed cases and 12,464 deaths. Though this number still accounts for a small proportion, about 7%, of global COVID-19 cases, this share is expected to increase given the observed rate of increase (50%) of cases in Gavi-eligible countries in the past two weeks. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kiribati and Solomon Islands have not yet reported any cases.



The Asian region continues to be the most affected, with India reporting the highest number of cases, followed by Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Afghanistan. Reported cases in West and Central Africa are also on the rise, – primarily driven by Ghana and Nigeria, which have seen increased cases in the last week (probably due to enhanced testing).

Countries continue to strengthen their efforts in responding to the growing pandemic. In Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, information from UNICEF indicates that with the support of local government bodies, COVID-19 response efforts are being strengthened, including on hard-to-reach islands, through: radio; TV; leaflets and other materials; and trainings on infection prevention and control (IPC).



Photo: Spraying streets with disinfectants, Indonesia  
Source: UNICEF/2020/Arimacs Wilander

In Indonesia, Jakarta's provincial government has responded to COVID-19 through a series of measures such as training health workers; collecting and sharing case data; and implementing appropriate protective measures – such as spraying the streets with disinfectants and installing sidewalk handwashing stations.

Senegal will be developing two types of affordable, rapid COVID-19 tests – one using saliva, the other a blood drop from a fingertip. These tests will cost less than US\$ 1 to produce and will provide a diagnosis within 10–20 minutes. Furthermore, university researchers<sup>1</sup> are creating artificial respirators almost entirely using a 3D printer.

In Benin, the Task Force Innov COVID-19 Bénin has identified innovative and efficient solutions – such as local production of masks, mobile handwashing devices, visors, respirators, and local screening and treatment initiatives through digital platforms – adapted to the needs of the social, economic and cultural context.

### Impact on routine immunisation (RI)

Out of 68 Gavi-supported vaccine introductions projected to take place in 2020, 39 have been delayed so far due to COVID-19. About 10 Gavi-eligible countries (including Angola, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho and Pakistan) have reported shipment delays, while approximately 9 countries are reporting stock-outs at central or sub-national level<sup>2</sup>. However, UNICEF reports that 36 shipments have been delivered to 20 countries, which is stable in comparison to the previous week. Reports indicate increased availability of commercial flights, therefore the trend of improvement in deliveries is expected to continue.

Several Gavi-eligible countries have officially reported vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks, such as: measles (Ethiopia, Burundi, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Nigeria); yellow fever (Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda); and vaccine-derived polio (Mali, Niger). Reports from West and Central Africa Regional Working Group suggest that there are

<sup>1</sup> Thiès Polytechnic School

<sup>2</sup> Benin, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea, Lesotho, Pakistan, Sao Tome and Principe and Senegal

more cVDPV2<sup>3</sup> cases and more countries affected at week 20 in 2020, compared with the same period in 2019. There have been fewer active surveillance visits in West Africa between weeks 10 and 20 in 2020, compared with the same period in 2019. Gavi continues to closely monitor the situation in these countries. WHO recently issued a decision-making framework for the implementation of mass vaccination campaigns in the context of COVID-19. In accordance with this guidance, some countries are expected to restart campaigns based on their epidemiological context.

There are indications of reduced uptake of routine immunisation (RI) services due to COVID-19 containment measures and fear of transmission. For example, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, there has been a 10-point drop in RI attendance in April 2020 in Kinshasa, and a drop in other provinces of about 6%. In Côte d'Ivoire, reports indicate a 12% drop in measles-rubella vaccination coverage between 2019 and 2020 during the same period. A UNICEF survey indicated that over half of the parents were reluctant to take their children for immunisation due to mistrust and rumours. In Kenya, a 10% drop in uptake of the third dose of pentavalent vaccine was noted in April 2020. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, a 7.3% drop in MCV1<sup>4</sup> coverage was noted between the first quarter of 2019 and the second quarter of 2020.

Despite these challenges, countries are establishing efforts to maintain RI.

In Uganda, equipment procured under Gavi's CCEOP<sup>5</sup> grant has been successfully delivered, despite logistical challenges in delivering to a remote area and to health centres on four different islands.

Timor-Leste has put in place measures such as developing guidelines for the screening and triage of patients coming to health care facilities; procuring and encouraging the use of masks and gloves for health care workers; safe hand hygiene; controlling overcrowding at health care facilities; and recommending that vaccination sessions be conducted in well-ventilated and frequently disinfected areas.



Photo: Delivering CCEOP through Haier Biomedical's local representative (Beyond Logistics), Uganda. Source: Unknown



Photo: Prof Duc Anh checking the refrigerator, Vietnam  
Source: NEPI

In Vietnam, a handover ceremony was held for the 250 vaccine refrigerators financed by the Government of Vietnam for the Southern, Central and Highland regions. An additional 350 fridges funded by Gavi will arrive in Hai Phong Port in early July 2020, to be delivered to the provinces of the Northern region.

## A. GAVI COUNTRY PROGRAMMES UPDATE ON COVID-19 RESPONSE

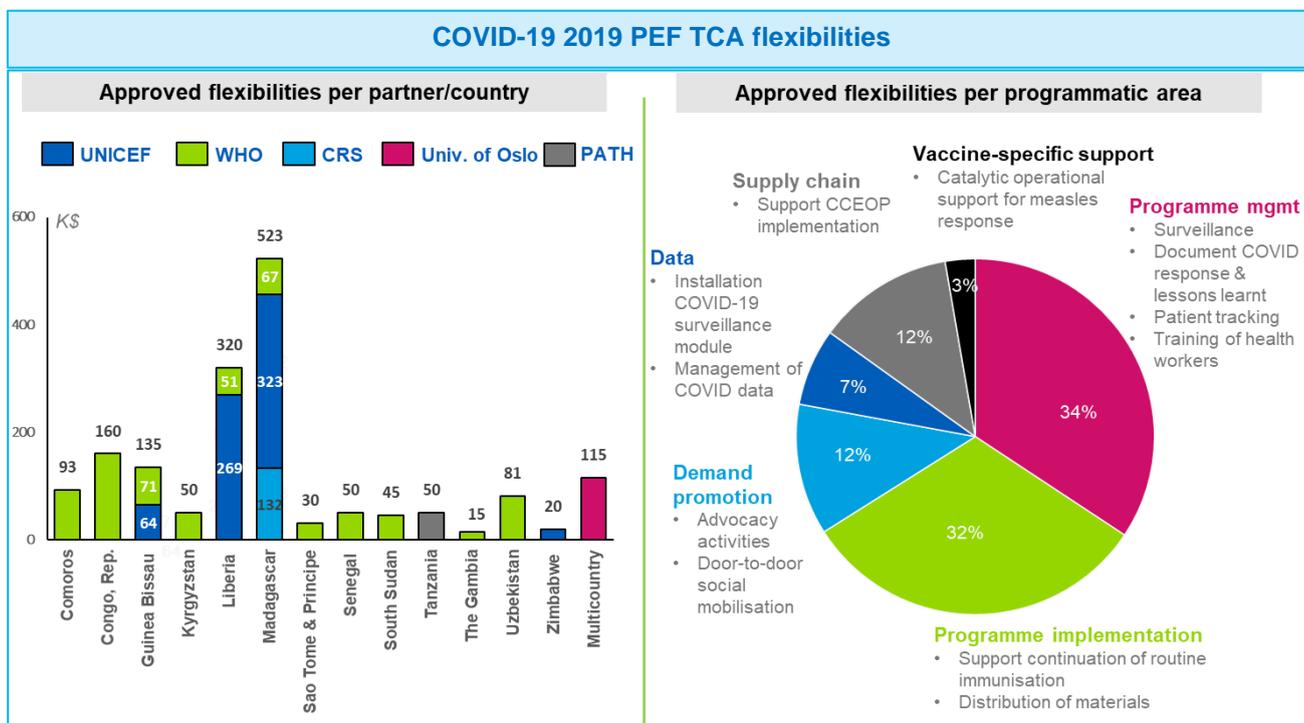
- > **Forty-nine** reprogramming applications have been approved so far, of which **35** health system strengthening (HSS) reprogramming applications have been approved totalling **US\$ 70 million**.
- > Approximately **55%** of this allocation has been reprogrammed for personal protective equipment (PPE) and infection prevention and control (IPC) activities.
- > Through the flexibilities provided under partners' engagement framework (PEF) Targeted Country Assistance (TCA), partners in 31 countries have received no-cost extensions. Furthermore, US\$ 2 million has been reallocated across 29 countries and 5 partners: WHO, CDC Foundation, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), University of Oslo and PATH.

<sup>3</sup> Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2

<sup>4</sup> First dose of measles-containing vaccine

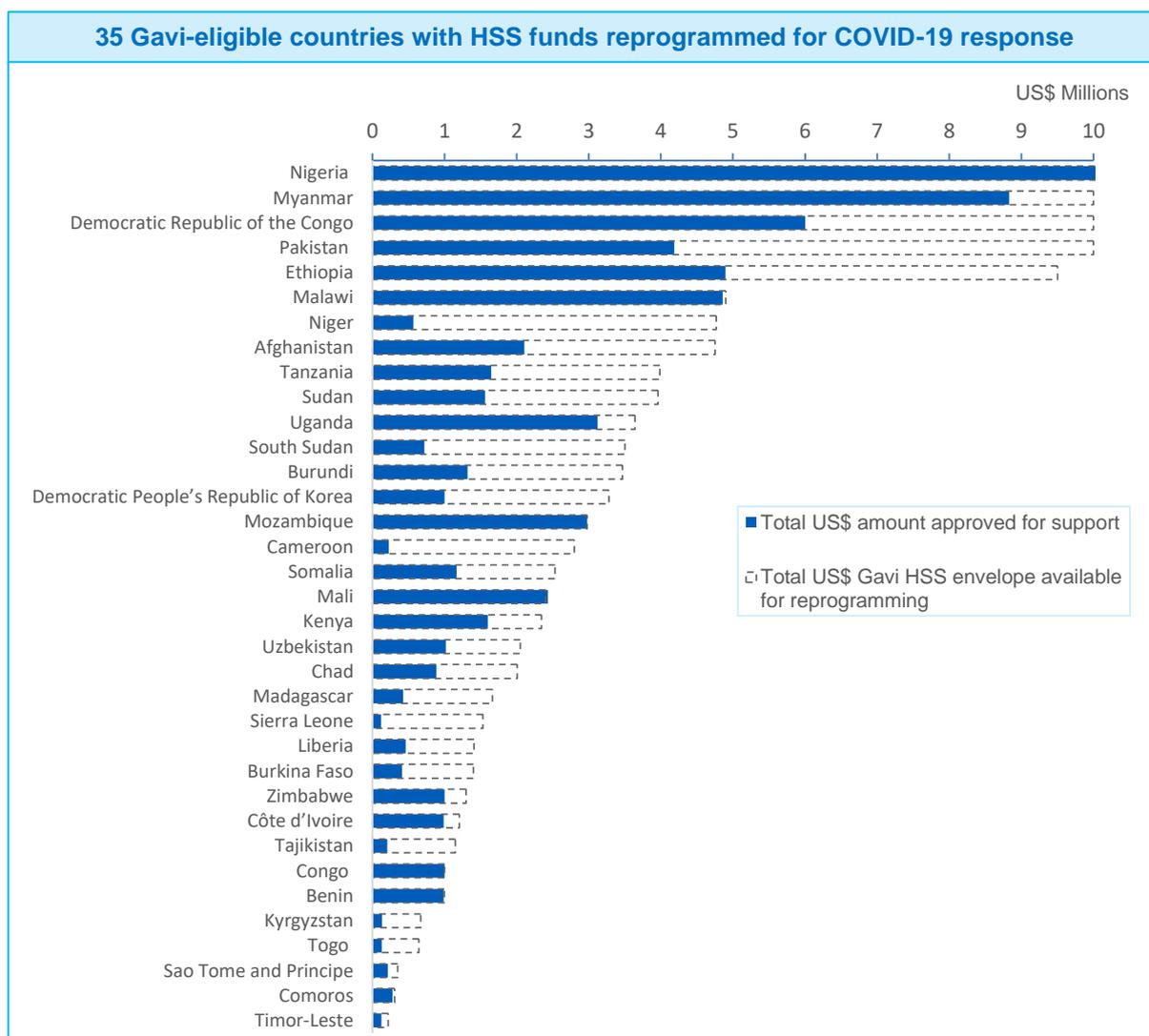
<sup>5</sup> Cold chain equipment optimisation platform

- > For many of the partners, several activities within PEF TCA have been put on hold due to the impact of COVID-19. The structure and partnerships in place through TCA, however, have allowed for adapting and contextualising the existing support in the current environment. The reprogramming of technical assistance support is mainly focused on programme management of the COVID-19 response, such as patient tracking and surveillance, training of health workers on COVID-19-specific risks, as well as social mobilisation and monitoring contact tracing.



- > For CDC Foundation in Ethiopia, PEF TCA flexibility has enabled existing assets to readily adapt and actively assist the Ministry of Health and the Oromia Regional Health Bureau to respond to the pandemic. Also, in Sierra Leone, the recent country-wide lockdown caused delays in the implementation of capacity-building trainings and supportive supervision with public health institute staff on defaulter tracking, data quality and demand promotion. Since the ban has been lifted, the trainings and supportive supervision activities have resumed in the new norm, respecting social distancing. Given the magnitude of the pandemic, the flexibility of PEF TCA in Haiti has allowed CDC Foundation to shift its funding from vaccine-preventable disease surveillance due to travel ban to focusing on laboratory identification of COVID-19.
- > In Liberia, the immunisation programme acted swiftly to better monitor circulating rumours and to develop a risk communication strategy through HSS reallocation. To support the Ministry of Health, UNICEF reallocated technical assistance in mitigating rumours and false information. WHO in Liberia reallocated technical and logistical support for the National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (NITAG) to training for contact tracing. UNICEF and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Madagascar reallocated their TCA to include complementary activities which aim to sustain routine immunisation and conduct mass communication awareness activities. These activities are in line with the reallocations in the HSS grant that include: training and recruitment of volunteers from the health sector (eg, medical students, retired persons) to support immunisation delivery, as health workers are focused on COVID-19 response; support to reinforce epidemiological surveillance; and community communication activities to sensitise on COVID-19 prevention, including SMS reminders to parents about the due dates for their children's immunisation.
- > In Zambia, the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) has been working closely with the government to continue to support RI services. CIDRZ is collaborating with the national Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) staff at the district level to ensure that the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is available for health care workers to ensure safe and uninterrupted RI support and vaccine deliveries. CIDRZ is also providing support for accurate COVID-19-related messaging to be communicated at all points of service delivery during RI. Further, CIDRZ is contributing to the COVID-19 national response by assisting with distribution of PPE; supporting safe triage and patient flow; and assisting with COVID-19 testing due to begin shortly.

- > To date, nearly all Gavi-eligible countries have accessed immediate support for COVID-19 response. The Alliance is now pivoting towards planning how to support countries with their recovery through three major pillars:
  - ❖ Maintaining and restoring immunisation services by recognising that every country will be impacted differently by COVID-19, therefore a tailored approach will be needed.
  - ❖ Ensuring adequate cold chain equipment (CCE) for the COVID-19 response in terms of planning, financing and market shaping; issuing guidance on use of vaccine CCE for COVID-19 commodities; and assessing CCE needs for COVID-19 commodities on both demand and supply sides.
  - ❖ Responding to the fiscal impact on immunisation programmes through recently Gavi Board-approved flexibilities such as: (i) preserving countries' eligibility status and co-financing at 2020 levels for 2021; and (ii) offering flexibilities to countries' 2020 co-financing obligations where well-justified and based on individual country context.
- > These approaches were discussed last week by Gavi's Programme and Policy Committee (PPC); they will be further discussed at the Gavi Board meeting at the end of June, before they are operationalised.
- > Summary of HSS reprogramming requests as of 02 June is below (*further details on approved requests are available in Annex 1*).



## B. ANNEX 1: FURTHER DETAILS ON REPROGRAMMING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
<b>HSS reprogramming applications approved</b>			
<b>Nigeria</b>	12,254,953	12,600,000	Hygiene and infection control training for health workers, infection control supplies, surveillance activities, laboratory testing materials, risk communication, and community engagement and coordination and oversight
<b>Myanmar</b>	8,830,447	10,000,000	Disease surveillance, infection prevention and control (IPC), laboratory readiness, coordination, community engagement and risk communication
<b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	6,001,751	10,000,000	Logistics, IPC, coordination, risk communication and community engagement
<b>Ethiopia</b>	4,897,012	9,500,000	Infection control supplies; risk and behavioural communication; community, civil society and media engagement
<b>Malawi</b>	4,859,000	4,900,000	Immediate infection prevention efforts, including protection of health workers; strengthening screening and diagnostic efforts; and coordination
<b>Pakistan</b>	4,184,219	10,000,000	PPE equipment for front line Immunisation workers for six months
<b>Uganda</b>	3,120,539	3,642,000	IPC supplies, laboratory supplies, risk communication
<b>Mozambique</b>	2,980,000	2,980,000	PPE for health workers; development and production of communication materials aimed at the public to encourage the adoption of preventive behaviours and to inform of the continuity of essential programmes
<b>Mali</b>	2,435,754	2,400,000	Disease surveillance equipment, sanitisation materials, lab equipment and PPE
<b>Afghanistan</b>	2,106,722	4,750,000	Diagnostic capacity, IPC and hygiene, infection and laboratory supplies
<b>Tanzania</b>	1,646,534	3,984,622	PPE
<b>Kenya</b>	1,599,206	2,346,000	Capacity building on COVID-19 case management; coordination (national and county); PPE procurement; communication support; IT to support coordination

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
<b>Sudan</b>	1,560,519	3,960,000	Hygiene and infection control training for health workers, infection control supplies, surveillance activities (including community-based surveillance), support to the establishment of isolation centres, supervision activities
<b>Burundi</b>	1,317,918	3,468,205	PPE, lab equipment, IPC, logistics support, communication activities and disease surveillance training
<b>Somalia</b>	1,166,095	2,530,000	PPE, risk communication, disease surveillance, case management, IPC
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	1,016,560	2,050,000	PPE, health worker training and communication
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	1,000,000	1,300,000	Rapid test kits, PPE, test kits
<b>Congo</b>	1,000,000	1,000,000	Diagnostic devices, PPE, medical equipment and treatment, laboratory consumables
<b>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</b>	1,000,000	3,280,000	Training of trainers and refresher training of laboratory personnel; laboratory - procurement and installation of diagnostic machines; procurement of lab reagent and supplies; IPC and sample collection kits for laboratory and rapid response team (RRT) staff and joint Monitoring with WHO and Ministry of Public Health
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	987,833	1,204,674	Communication and community mobilisation activities
<b>Benin</b>	986,438	998,000	IPC measures in health facilities and communities; supply and management of PPE; community engagement; social and behavioural change communication (SBCC); disease surveillance
<b>Chad</b>	884,721	2,007,342	IPC, PPE, disease surveillance and communication
<b>South Sudan</b>	720,410	3,500,000	Surveillance, training, contact tracing, rapid response teams, IPC and case management
<b>Niger</b>	568,153	4,770,000	PPE; support to epidemiological surveillance, monitoring and risk assessment; community communication activities and support for equipment and facilities for remote working
<b>Liberia</b>	459,221	1,410,000	Communication to address rumours that impact routine immunisation
<b>Madagascar</b>	425,907	1,664,000	PPE; strengthening hygiene and sanitation measures; risk prevention and community engagement; coordination; screening; and surveillance

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
Burkina Faso	407,933	1,401,000	Procurement of PPE for health workers; social mobilisation through communication; laboratory supplies; disease surveillance
Comoros	277,704	308,560	Procurement of PPE; strengthening hygiene and sanitation measures; IPC; communication for risk prevention and community engagement; capacity building for COVID-19 patient care; coordination, screening (laboratory) and surveillance
Cameroon	226,188	2,800,000	Risk communication and community engagement
Sao Tome and Principe	212,600	350,000	PPE
Tajikistan	205,046	1,150,000	Social mobilisation and communication
Kyrgyzstan	134,000	670,000	Surveillance, training, communication, PPE
Togo	129,000	645,000	Expansion of testing capacity to sub-national level
Timor-Leste	124,580	219,056	Training, operational costs and transportation
Sierra Leone	118,997	1,534,000	Health worker capacity strengthening, training, procurement, and social mobilisation and surveillance
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,845,961</b>	<b>119,322,459</b>	
<b>Partners' engagement framework (PEF) Targeted Country Assistance (TCA)/post-transition engagement (PTE) reprogramming applications approved</b>			
Timor-Leste	336,275	No ceiling applicable	PTE support reallocated for operational, training and communication support; and cold chain improvements
Congo Rep.	160,040	No ceiling applicable	Training of health workers, patient tracking; supervisions
Guinea-Bissau	134,000	No ceiling applicable	Communication strategy, disease surveillance, supervision, infection control and training
Madagascar	523,254	No ceiling applicable	Roll-out of communication activities in 9 priority regions; training of health workers on COVID-19; documenting CSOs' role in COVID-19 response
Liberia	320,126	No ceiling applicable	Disease surveillance: support contact tracers' training and conduct contact tracing
Bhutan	50,041	No ceiling applicable	Procurement of cold boxes and vaccine carriers, training of student nurses, monitoring and demand generation
Cambodia	36,030	No ceiling applicable	Reallocation of funding and no-cost extension

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
Uzbekistan	32,500	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension for 2019 TCA and reprogramming for safety training for health care workers, communication strategy
Zimbabwe	19,696	No ceiling applicable	Finalise and roll out trainings (if possible, virtual) for community health workers on COVID-19 prevention, case identification and referrals – aligned with village health worker trainings; training for 2,000 community health workers in 23 districts
Congo	160,040	No ceiling applicable	Training of health workers, patient tracking
Senegal	50,000	No ceiling applicable	Surveillance, patient tracking
South Sudan	45,000	No ceiling applicable	Contact tracing and reporting on Covid-19 cases in South Sudan
The Gambia	15,000	No ceiling applicable	Provide technical support to the adaptation/adoption of the guidelines on the operationalization of ANC, postnatal and immunization in the context of COVID-19
Kyrgyzstan	50,000	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension for 2019 TCA and assessment and reprogramming for rehabilitation planning of national vaccine store, support district level trainings on new AEFI guideline
Haiti	30,600	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension and reprogramming for Covid-19 response
Bangladesh	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Burkina Faso	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Congo	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Central African Republic	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Vietnam	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Uganda	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Senegal	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Sierra Leone	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Niger	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Nigeria	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Ethiopia	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Ghana	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No cost extension
Afghanistan	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Pakistan	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
<b>Sudan</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Nepal</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Nicaragua</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Liberia</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>South Sudan</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Lao PDR</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Myanmar</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Tanzania</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>University of Oslo</b>	115,000	No ceiling applicable	Support countries that have expressed the need to install the new DHIS2 COVID-19 surveillance packages aligned with WHO recommendation
<b>Kenya</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Malawi</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Syria</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Djibouti</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Yemen</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,077,602</b>		